Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (currently amended) An operating system, comprising:
a non-preemptive microkernel executing one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and
one or more kernels adapted to be each being executed as a process one or more processes by the non-preemptive microkernel.

2.   (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein one of the kernels executes an operating system as a dependent process.

3.   (original) The operating system of claim 2, wherein the operating system is a time-sliced operating system or a microkernel.

4.   (original) The operating system of claim 2, wherein the operating system is Unix.

5.   (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein each process has its own stack.

6.   (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein the processes communicate using one or more messages.

7.   (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein each process has a unique process identifier (PID).
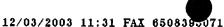

8.   (original) The operating system of claim 7, further comprising a mailbox coupled to a plurality of processes to service messages sent to a single PID.

9.   (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein the processes never terminate.

10.   (original) The operating system of claim 1, wherein one of the kernels is a microkernel.

11.   (original) A method for operating a computer system, comprising:

managing one or more processes with a non-preemptive microkernel, the microkernel running the one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and

executing one or more kernels as one or more processes managed by the non-preemptive microkernel.

12.   (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising executing an operating system in one of the microkernels as a dependent process.

13.   (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is a time-sliced operating system or a microkernel.

14.   (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is Unix.

15.   (original) The method of claim 11, wherein each process has its own stack.

16.   (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising performing inter-process communication using one or more messages.

17.   (original) The method of claim 11, wherein each process has a unique process identifier (PID).

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18.   (original) The operating system of claim 17, further comprising servicing messages sent to a single PID by a plurality of processes using a mailbox.

19. .   (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising executing the processes without termination.

20.   (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising executing a microkernel in one of the kernels.

21.   (original) A computer system, comprising:
means for managing one or more processes with a non-preemptive microkernel, the microkernel running the one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and
means for executing one or more kernels as one or more processes managed by the non-preemptive microkernel.

22.   (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for executing an operating system in one of the microkernels.

23.   (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is a time-sliced operating system.

24.   (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the operating system is Unix.

25.   (original) The system of claim 21, wherein each process has its own stack.

26.   (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for performing inter-process communication using one or more messages.

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27.   (original) The system of claim 21, wherein each process has a unique process identifier (PID).

28.   (original) The operating system of claim 17, further comprising means for servicing messages sent to a single PID by a plurality of processes using a mailbox.

29.   (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for executing the processes without termination.

30.   (original) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for executing a microkernel in one of the kernels.

31.   (currently amended) A computer, comprising:
an interconnect bus;
one or more processors coupled to the interconnect bus and adapted to be configured for server-specific functionalities including network processing, file processing, storage processing and application processing;
a configuration processor coupled to the interconnect bus and to the processors, the configuration processor dynamically assigning processor functionalities upon request;
one or more data storage devices coupled to the processors and managed by a file system;
a non-preemptive microkernel executing one or more processes in accordance with a predetermined priority; and

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one or more kernels ~~adapted to be~~ <u>each being</u> executed as <u>a process</u> ~~one or more processes~~ by the non-preemptive microkernel.

32.   (original) The computer of claim 31, wherein the microkernel executes an operating system as a dependent process.

33.   (original) The computer of claim 31, wherein the microkernel executes a network switch operating system as a dependent process.